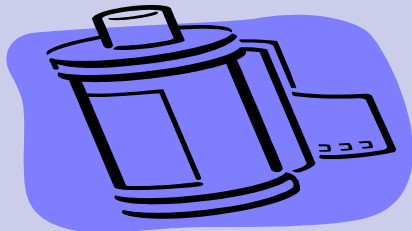


In Conclusion

Film Processors are specifically named as mandated reporters in South Carolina. As a film processor, you may have the occasion to see photographs that are questionable in nature, and appear to depict children being exploited and/or abused. You are required to make a report of these photographs, if you have reason to believe that a child has been abused. You do not need conclusive proof, only a reason to believe, that the child depicted in the photograph is a victim of abuse. In making a report, you are not accusing anyone of anything; you are only requesting an investigation into your concerns involving the photographs.

State Law requires that your identity is confidential. You are immune from criminal and civil liability, as long as you report in good faith.



Children ' s Law Center
School of Law
University of South Carolina

1600 Hampton Street, Ste. 502
Columbia, S.C. 29208

Phone: (803) 777-1646

Fax: (803) 777-8686

Web Site:<http://childlaw.sc.edu>

Child Abuse and Neglect

Film Processors As Mandated Reporters



Children's Law Center
School of Law
University of South Carolina

Mandated Reporting
S.C. Code § 20-7-510 et. seq.



Making a report

Mandatory Reporters

Film processors, as well as certain other professionals, are required to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect.

When do you report?

As a mandated reporter, you **MUST** report when you **have reason to believe** a child has been or may have been affected by abuse or neglect. You do not need conclusive proof that the child has been abused.

You may see photographs that contain sexually explicit images of minors. You have received this information in your professional capacity and are required to report.

Where to report?

You may make the report to DSS or law enforcement.

Film processors are also required under South Carolina Code § 16-3-850 to report this information to law enforcement.

Confidentiality

DSS and law enforcement are required to keep the identity of the person making the report confidential.

Immunity from Liability

Sometimes people fail to report because they are afraid they will be sued. Mandated reporters are protected from civil and criminal liability, as long as the report is made in **good faith**.



The law creates a rebuttable presumption that mandated reporters have reported in good faith.

Penalties for failure to report

If you fail to report you may be charged and if convicted, fined up to \$500 or imprisoned up to six months, or both.

Additional training

If you would like additional information or training on this topic, please contact us at:

Children's Law Center
School of Law
University of South Carolina

1600 Hampton Street, Ste. 502
Columbia, S.C. 29208

Phone: (803) 777-1646
Fax: (803) 777-8686

Web site:
<http://childlaw.sc.edu>